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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from Halle

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 20 March to 17 April 1950

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 18 May 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 7

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. a. Between 20 March and 6 April 1950, the Halle (M 52/D 92) Rail Kaserne was still occupied by MVD troops allegedly belonging to the following units:

(1) Regimental headquarters of an MVD regiment with motor vehicles [redacted] passenger car [redacted] belonging to the regimental commander.

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(2) Military band in platoon strength.

(3) Battalion headquarters with motor vehicles [redacted] The vehicles were apparently not permanently stationed in the Rail Kaserne, but were assigned to field agencies of the battalion in the neighboring localities.

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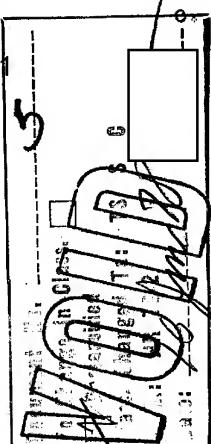
(4) MVD battalion, apparently overstrength, as the troops in the barracks were estimated at at least one battalion on the one hand and as personnel of the battalion were assigned to field agencies on the other hand.

(5) Dog handler section with about 30 Alsatian dogs.

b. The troops in the barracks numbered about 600.

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d. An MVD junior lieutenant wearing golden artillery insignia embroidered on his epaulets was observed for the first time. (1)

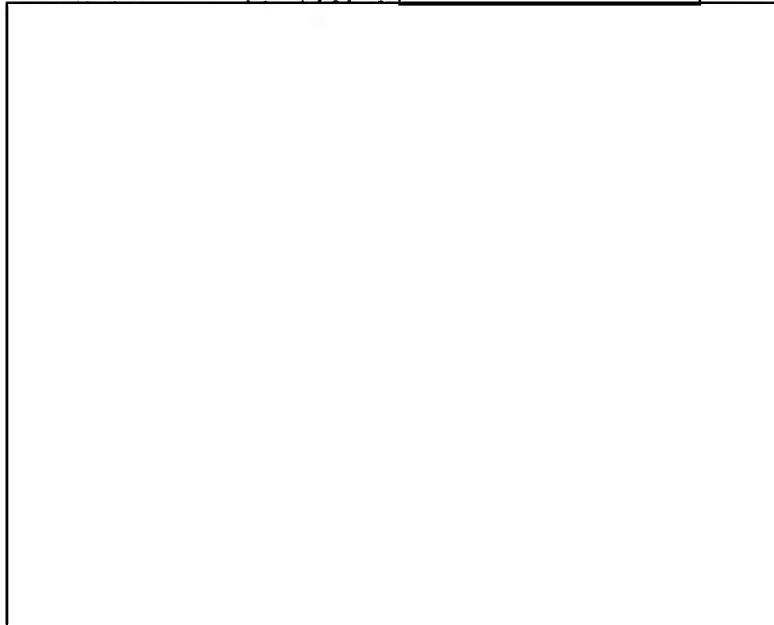
2. Luftnachrichten Schule and Fliegerhorst Kaserne:

a. No changes in the occupation were observed between 20 March and 6 April 1950.

b. The radio station in the southern section of the Luftnachrichten Schule had three masts, 8 to 10 meters high. No wires were extended between the masts, which formed a triangle with about 30-meters long sides. Red-white pennants of sheet metal were on top of the masts.

c. A fuel dump with at least 60 barrels, guarded by a sentry, was at the southernmost tip of the Luftnachrichten Schule area, between the radio station and the garages. [redacted]

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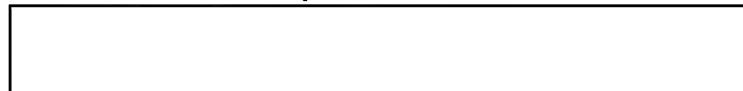
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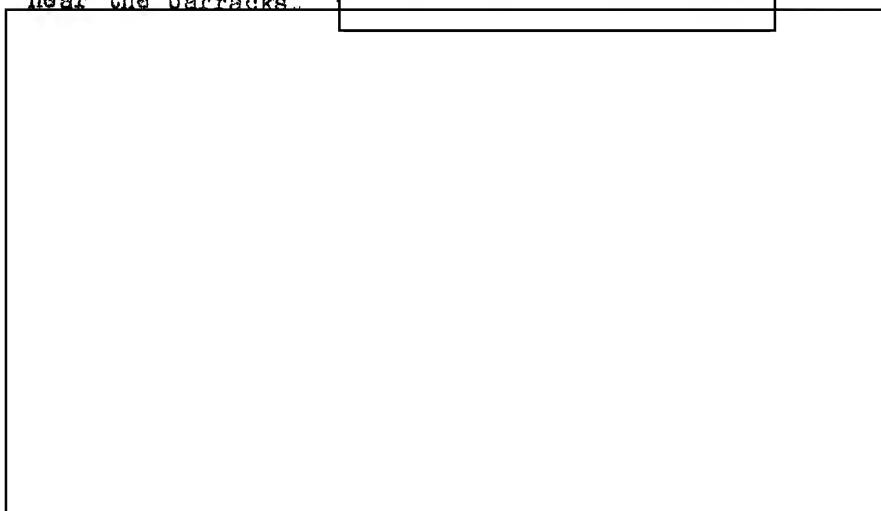
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3. Flak Kaserne, Woermlitz:

No changes in the occupation were observed.
Troops were trained with eleven 76.2-mm AT guns
near the barracks.



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4. Klueber Kaserne:

a. Observed troops wore the following service colors:

(1) Black-bordered red epaulets without insignia and
with motor transport insignia.

(2) Red-bordered black epaulets without insignia and
with motor transport insignia.

(3) Blue-bordered black epaulets without insignia.

(4) Black-bordered black epaulets without insignia.

b. The troops in the barracks allegedly belonged
to the following units:

(1) Motor transport units of the Kommandatura and
the SCC with motor vehicles

Civilians were observed among the
troops. Soviet-occupied motor vehicles went to
offices in the city. Civilian-occupied motor
vehicles were seen in Soviet residential areas and
at German firms and offices.

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(2) Supply unit with blue-bordered black epaulets.

(3) Rifle unit with black-bordered red epaulets without branch-of-service insignia, apparently furnishing guards for those offices and headquarters in the city which do not have troops at their disposal.

(4) Headquarters where civilians are also apparently employed; equipped with motor vehicles

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(5) Technical unit with black-bordered black epaulets.

(6) Motor pool of the SCC and drivers' quarters.

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c. The troops in the barracks numbered about 300.

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5. Local residents said that the Soviet command structure was to be moved from Robert-Franz-Ring to Stressburger Strasse, opposite the Luftnachrichten Schule.

6. The commanding general of the Soviet mechanized division stationed in Halle was billeted in a villa next to the Weinberg garden-restaurant, according to local residents.

7. a. The Luftnachrichten Schule was occupied by troops with the following service colors between 14 and 17 April 1950:

Red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia

Red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia

Red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia

Red-bordered black epaulets without insignia

Red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia

Black-bordered black epaulets with crossed-axes insignia

Black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia

Blue-bordered black epaulets.

Almost all troops wore the guards badge.

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b. The following officers and troops left the area NE of the barracks, apparently upon completion of a field exercise, at about 1:30 p.m. on 14 April 1950:

One general riding passenger car [redacted] 25X1

One colonel wearing black-bordered black epaulets

Three lieutenant colonels wearing black-bordered black epaulets

Four majors wearing black-bordered black epaulets

Ten other engineer officers

One colonel wearing red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of service insignia

Two majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia

About 30 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia

Eleven groups of 12 to 15 engineer troops each.

Singing of 300 to 400 troops was heard from the NW section of the barracks.

Six 76.2-mm AT guns were parked in the barracks yard.

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8. Klueber Kaserne:

Presumably housing the motor vehicles of the kommandatura. No drill activity was observed.

9.a. A tank unit from the Luftnachrichten Schule was entrained at the freight station between 6 and 11 a.m. on 17 April 1950. Thirteen heavy JS tanks [redacted] and three jeeps [redacted]

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were entrained. One of the jeeps mounted an AA machine gun. A junior lieutenant and two EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia directed traffic at the entrance to the freight station. [redacted] motor vehicles hauled material or were parked at the entraining site:

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[redacted]

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[redacted] Comment:

a. The report indicates that the Halle troops were still in their barracks on 6 April 1950.

b. Individual data:

(1) An MWD unit in the mentioned strength has long been known to be stationed in the Reil-Kaserne.

(2)

[redacted] No. (114th?) Gds Mtrcl Bn of the 21st Gds Mecz Div in Halle. [redacted] near the Fliegerhorst Kaserne during recent months.

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[redacted] Naumburg; possibly [redacted] a component unit of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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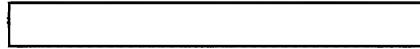
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(3) Eighth Gds Army headquarters units, including motor transport units and a supply headquarters, SCC motor transport units and an infantry guard unit are in the Klueber Kaserne according to previous reports. The latter unit was confirmed by the report.

(4) The field exercise held near the Luftnachrichten Schule on 14 April 1950 presumably was an engineer demonstration for officers of the of the 21st Gds Macz Div.

(5) The tank unit entrained on 17 April 1950 presumably belonged to the 19th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt/21st Gds Macz Div in the Luftnachrichten Schule. The unit presumably went to a troop training grounds, as indicated by reports on rail movements through Erfurt *. Component units of the 21st Gds Macz Div practiced at the Eisenach-Kindel troop training grounds from 1947 to 1949.

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